

1 COMPENSATING FOR DRIFT AND SENSOR PROXIMITY IN A SCANNING
2 SENSOR, IN COLOR CALIBRATING INCREMENTAL PRINTERS

5 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

7 To compensate for color-calibration sensor drift, a
8 measurement of bare-print-medium tonal value is taken in
9 immediate time juxtaposition to each color test pattern;
10 measured bare-medium tone is then used to correct color-
11 patch readings. A line sensor or the like, on the scan-
12 ning printhead carriage, is used for the reading. Pref-
13 erably two such readings are taken, one at each end of
14 each test pattern; ideally separate scans of the bare me-
15 dium are taken without any test-pattern patch to develop
16 longterm and short-term drift profiles, for refining the
17 corrections. To compensate for calibration error due to
18 runout in the carriage track — particularly for wide-bed
19 printers — sensor response to bare medium is used to rep-
20 resent variations in carriage-to-medium spacing along the
21 track; these variations are corrected in later sensor use.